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Library Services to Diverse and Special Populations Announcing the Launch of a New Diversity/Special Populations Resource

www.cde.stat.co.us/cdelib/librarydiversity.htm

Diverse and special populations comprise a substantial percentage of the state's population. Colorado's libraries support equal access for all residents.

The Colorado State Library and its Special Populations & Issues Committee announce the launch of a new resource—a website loaded with hundreds of links and ideas for libraries of all types. It contains information on topics like:

- Collection development,
- Staff and volunteer training
- Cultural competencies
- Community needs assessments
- Programming
- Diversity plans

The home page is designed to be a starting place. Resources and links will help you begin or continue searching for useful, practical information, adaptable to your library.

What is a diverse or special population? In general, it includes ethnic minorities, persons with physical and mental disabilities, seniors, immigrants. But it can be any group that's underserved in your library's service area.

A special note: share your own success stories and ideas at the section "Promising Practices." This is the interactive part of the site. You are the best evaluator of what works. You may be honored for your effort!

Community responsiveness and service to diverse, special, or underserved populations should be a part of the vision and plan for every library. Innovate, experiment and reach out to become vibrant community centers for all Colorado's residents.

For information about the site and its contents, contact staff liaison Bonnie McCune, Library Community Programs Consultant, 303.866.6891, mccune_b@cde.state.co.us.

The project is supported by a Library Services and Technology Act grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Upcoming Events and Activities: Library Card Sign-Up Month, Constitution Day, Banned Books Week, Teen Read Week

Take advantage of a number of commemorations and celebrations to spotlight your library, its services, and its role in the community. Try creating displays, contacting local media, holding an event, and inviting elected officials to visit, for these special occasions:

1. Library Card Sign-Up Month, all September:
<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/otherinit/card/librarycard.htm>. English and Spanish materials; downloadable radio PSAs.
2. Constitution & Citizenship Day, September 17:
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/ConstitutionDay/index.html> Online materials. READ posters free, with Governor and Lieutenant Governor,
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/slpromo.htm>
3. Banned Books Week, September 27 to October 6.
<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.htm>

For libraries that wish to expand or enhance their activities associated with Banned Books Week, materials from Amnesty International USA should go on

their website shortly. Here's a preview of the cases that are being featured for action this time by AIUSA.

- Sakit Zahidov (AZERBAIJAN), poet/satirist/journalist, imprisoned after unfair trial
- Yang Tongyan (CHINA), freelance writer, prisoner of conscience, convicted of "subversion" because of writings in support of democratic political change
- Pablo Pacheco Avila (CUBA), journalist, prisoner of conscience arrested 2003 during crackdown on dissidents, sentenced to 20 years
- Abdul Karim Nabeil Suleiman (Karim Amer on Internet) & Abdel Moneim Mahmoud (EGYPT), convicted bloggers
- Ko Aung Htun (MYANMAR), writer (including of a 7-volume history of student movements), prisoner of conscience, sentenced to 17 years
- Anna Politkovskaya (RUSSIA), author, reported on human rights abuses since 1999, harassed by authorities and then murdered last October

The people posted at

http://www.amnestyusa.org/Individuals_at_Risk/Banned_Books/page.do?id=1101492&n1=3&n2=34&n3=842 appear to be those from one year ago (2006).

4. Teen Read Week, October 14-20:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/trw/trw2006/trw06.htm>

Others include National Family Literacy Day, November 1: <http://www.familit.org/>;

and Children's Book Week, November 12-18:

http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbw/index_2.html

Out & About with CSL Staff

- Eugene Hainer, Colorado State Library director, attended the Pine River Library District Board meeting in Bayfield and met with the library's director. Met with directors of the Upper San Juan Library District (Pagosa Springs), and Rio Grande Library District (Monte Vista). Also visited libraries in Salida and Del Norte. Gene also participated as a panelist in a library-oriented discussion in Aurora for cable access TV broadcast. This was a follow-up to a similar event held in May, and designed to elicit awareness about library issues and roles in communities and education.
- Nance Nassar, school library consultant, presented at the Library of Congress "Teaching with Primary Sources" Institute held at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley in June. Topics that were covered included: history and civics; information literacy and librarian/teacher collaboration; and literacy through reading, writing, and story telling.

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- Lori Smith held SWIFT training sessions for the following libraries: Berthoud Public Library; John C. Fremont Public Library (Florence); Delta Correctional Facility; Lavenia McCoy Public Library (Bayfield); and Everest College in Colorado Springs. She also attended an interlibrary loan meeting at the Westminster Public Library.
 - Sharon Morris has been traveling to libraries throughout the state to take photographs and train library staff for Plinkit Web sites. In July, she was in Georgetown and Idaho Springs to work with staff on the Clear Creek County Library District. In August, Sharon visited Montrose Regional Library District, Norwood Public Library, Nucla Public Library, Ouray Library District, Silverton Public Library, Upper San Juan Library District (Pagosa Springs), Conejos County Library District, Alamosa's Southern Peaks Public Library and Wellington Public Library. Thanks to the Fort Lewis College, Reed Library for hosting the Plinkit training in their computer lab. Participants from Ignacio, Bayfield and Pagosa Springs joined us for hands-on Plinkit training and more chocolate than we needed.
 - Diane Walden traveled to many of the correctional facilities to conduct staff training. She also visited Fort Lyon Correctional Facility library to collect feedback on the Out for Life grant materials. While at the Trinidad Correctional Facility library Diane evaluated library safety and security and the interlibrary loan process.
 - In August, Diana Reese and Jean Heilig and the Executive Leadership Institute offered by the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies in Madison, Wisconsin.
 - On July 13th, Teresa Allen (Institutional Library Services) coordinated five presenters to train youth correctional library staff from across the state at the Philip S. Miller Library in Castle Rock. In August, Teresa gave a presentation on CSL services to 20 Volunteers of America staff and foster grandparents at the Zebulon Pike Youth Services Center in Colorado Springs.

Recently Published Fast Facts from Library Research Service

No. 253 [CSAP Scores Higher in Schools with Staffed Libraries](#) by Zeth Lietzau
Using the Colorado Department of Education's recently released 2007 CSAP test results, the data shows that students in schools with staffed libraries score better on the reading portions than those that attend schools without staffed libraries.

View this and other Fast Facts at <http://www.lrs.org/fastfacts.php>

Grants Available for Non-Fiction Books

The Making the Nonfiction Connection Grant from Heinemann-Raintree offers schools the opportunity to apply for Heinemann Library and Raintree books valuing up to \$5,000. The purpose of the grant is to recognize and reward extraordinary educational programs that promote the use of series nonfiction and enhance nonfiction literacy.

This grant will award two prizes worth \$5,000 each in Heinemann-Raintree books. One award will be for school library use (redeemable for \$5,000 of our library books) and one award for classroom use (redeemable for \$5,000 of our paperbacks).

Applications must be received by mail on or before October 1, 2007. Winners will be contacted by the end of October. Download the application at: www.raintreelibrary.com/resources/Nonfiction_Grant_Application.doc If you have questions, please contact Kelly Fitzgerald at 303-655-0030 or coloradobookrep@aol.com

The Resource Guide for Spanish-Speaking Women in Denver Is Now Available!

Often those in need are not aware of the services and/or programs that can help them. Adding a language barrier to this situation presents another set of challenges, notably, 12.1% of Denver's Spanish-speaking residents have limited English proficiency according to census data. While there are many resource guides designed for different populations, the Denver Women's Commission decided to create a resource guide specifically for the City and County of Denver's monolingual Spanish Speaking women.

The Resource Guide is now available in both Spanish and English online at www.denvergov.org/Default.aspx?alias=www.denvergov.org/Women. The guide features over forty organizations in approximately ten categories of services varying from employment and job training, healthcare, to legal services.

WWC Releases Four New Beginning Reading Intervention Reports and a Beginning Reading Topic Report

The What Works Clearinghouse, established in 2002 by the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences, has just released a Beginning

Reading Topic Report and four new Beginning Reading Intervention Reports. The four new intervention reports are:

- Earobics® - The WWC found Earobics® to have positive effects on alphabets and no discernible effects on fluency.
- Ladders to Literacy for Kindergarten Students – The WWC found Ladders to Literacy to have potentially positive effects on alphabets and fluency and mixed effects on comprehension.
- Success for All® - The WWC found Success for All to have potentially positive effects on alphabets and general reading achievement and mixed effects on comprehension.
- Voyager Universal Literacy System® - The WWC found Voyager Universal Literacy System® to have potentially positive effects on alphabets and potentially negative effects on comprehension.

For more information on these reports visit: <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/projects/wwc>

Delight in Diversity News

- Article About Diversity and Virtual Reference

"The Relationship Between Cultural Diversity and User Needs in Virtual Reference Services," by Pnina Shachaf and Mary Snyder, *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, May 2007. While the racial diversity of academic library users continues to grow, research on the effects of this diversity remains scarce. This study looks at similarities and differences between non-traditional Caucasian and African American library users through content analysis of ninety-four virtual reference transactions.

- A Recent Column Highlighted Program for Immigrants Instituted at the Bemis Public Library in Littleton

Many libraries are trying to find ways to support citizenship and related services but don't know if such efforts are in their scope. This article that Susan Thornton wrote simplifies it and highlights the two-way street of integration. Community is imperative to the process. Barbara Melton from the Office of Citizenship can discuss ideas with libraries and give you a perspective, plus possibly support materials. Reach her at Barbara.Melton@dhs.gov, (303) 371-0986 ext. 109. The article/column is: "Citizenship exam isn't easy" - By Susan Thornton. "At noon on Aug. 30 in Littleton, immigrants from El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Peru and Vietnam will swear loyalty to the United States, becoming new citizens of this country." See column at:

http://www.denverpost.com/search/ci_6633165?source=email

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- Free Reproducible Language and Early Literacy Activities in English and Spanish

Supporting Early Literacy in Natural Environments, Activities for Caregivers and Young Children in English and Spanish. Developed by Angela Notari-Syverson, Ph.D. and Kristin Rytter, Ph.D, with Judy Challoner, Faith Haertig Sadler, Young Sook Lim, Ph.D., Marilyn Sturm, and Rodd Hedlund (2005). These materials include forty-six home and community activities for adults and children that encourage early language and literacy development in young children. They are appropriate for children with disabilities as well as children who are developing typically. Each of the forty-six activities includes three pages: 1) An activity description, 2) Hints for making the activity fun and developmentally appropriate, and 3) A brief self-evaluation form that cues parents and other caregivers to notice their children's skills, and also cue adults to examine and grow their own interactions with children. The materials are specifically designed to address the three key skills of 1) language development, 2) phonological awareness, and 3) general print awareness. The files are in PDF format to allow easy and secure downloading. The materials may be reproduced and distributed as long as the materials are not sold. <http://www.wlearning.com/Parent.html>.

This news brought courtesy of the CSL Special Populations & Issues Committee, charged with improving library services to the underserved. See www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/librarydiversity.htm